

# PUBLIC NOTICE



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

445 12th STREET, S.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

DA 02-376

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## COMMISSION SEEKS COMMENT ON AT&T REQUEST TO CONTRIBUTE TO UNIVERSAL SERVICE BASED ON PROJECTED REVENUES

### PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 96-45

Release Date: February 26, 2002

**Comment Date: 21 days from publication in the Federal Register**

**Reply Comment Date: 31 days from publication in the Federal Register**

On December 13, 2002, AT&T filed a request with the Commission to contribute to universal service based on its projected revenues on a going-forward basis.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to section 54.711(c) of the Commission's rules, universal service contributions are based on a contributors' historical gross-billed end-user interstate and international telecommunications revenues, which are reported on a quarterly basis on the FCC Form 499-Q.<sup>2</sup> The FCC Form 499-Q instructs contributors to report their revenues from the prior calendar quarter.<sup>3</sup> These revenue data then serve as the basis for contributions assessed in the next calendar quarter.<sup>4</sup> AT&T asks the Commission to permit it to contribute based on its projected revenues for the current quarter, subject to true up with actual revenues, instead of contributing to universal service based on historical revenues from two quarters prior.<sup>5</sup> AT&T contends that grant of its request is warranted because the interval between reporting and assessment of contributions under the

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<sup>1</sup> See Letter from Robert W. Quinn, Jr., AT&T, to Magalie Roman Salas, Federal Communications Commission, filed Dec. 13, 2001 (*AT&T Request*). On February 7, 2002, AT&T renewed its request. See Letter from Robert W. Quinn, Jr., AT&T, to Magalie Roman Salas, Federal Communications Commission, filed Feb. 7, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 54.711 (“[c]ontributions shall be calculated and filed in accordance with the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet which shall be periodically published in the Federal Register”).

<sup>3</sup> See *Common Carrier Bureau Announces Approval of FCC Form 499-Q (Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet) by the Office of Management and Budget*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Public Notice, 16 FCC Rcd 7608 (Com. Car. Bur. 2001).

<sup>4</sup> For example, on February 1, 2002, contributors reported their revenues for the fourth quarter of 2001. Revenues reported on February 1, 2002, will serve as the basis for contributions assessed in the second quarter of 2002.

<sup>5</sup> See *AT&T Request* at 1-2. AT&T proposes to submit a projection of its revenues for the first quarter of 2002 and to contribute to universal service in the first quarter of 2002 based on that projection. *Id.*

current rules, combined with AT&T's declining interstate and international revenues, force it to recover its universal service contributions from a smaller customer base than the one on which it was assessed.<sup>6</sup> We seek comment on AT&T's request.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments 21 days or fewer from publication in the Federal Register, and reply comments 31 days or fewer from publication in the Federal Register. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 Fed. Reg. 24,121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit electronic comments by Internet e-mail. To receive filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to [ecfs@fcc.gov](mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov), and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Acting Secretary, William Caton, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Parties also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street S.W., Room 5-A422, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are permitted subject to disclosure.

For further information, contact Paul Garnett of the Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau at (202) 418-2332, TTY (202) 418-0484.

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.*